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WASHINGTON SENTINEL.

TRI-WEEKLY.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, THURSDAY MORNING JUNE 28, 1855

PROSPECTUS

BE if known that I, the subscriber obtained letters patent in December, 1851, for an apparatus for the destructive distillation of wood, and the making therefrom of tar or pitch at pleasure, and gas; and that in the judgment of competent persons the invention of an appartus recently patented by W. D. Porter cannot be used by him or any other person without infringing my said patent. And, further, that what is patented by said Porter rightfully belongs to me, as I expect to prove ere long before the United States Patent Office; and, further, that the use of said Porter's invention involves also a process which I am now claiming before the United States Patent Office, and which has been adjudged to be -WASHINGTON SENTINEL." PROPOSE to publish in the city of Washington, in September, a political newspaper, under the name of the WASHINGTON SENTI

In doing so, it is proper I should make known the principles it will maintain, and the policy will advocate. will advocate.

It will support cordially and earnestly the principles of the Democratic party of the United States it does not propose to be the organ of any Department of the Government, except in so far as an in lependent maintenance of the doctrines of that

It will not be ambitious to commend itseff to the It will not be ambitious to commend itself to the people by a blind flattery of their rulers. It will seek public support by the bold avowal of the sentiments which are common to the genuine Democracy of the Union, and by the condemnation of all such as may conflict with them, from whatever quarter they may come. It will seek to be (and it will endeavor-to deserved, this) the organ of the Democratic party of the blessed States. which an official copy is hereto annexed, and also a copy of his claims.

In the National Intelligencer of the 25th instant Mr. Porter announces that he has secured by patent the "exclusive right to making gas from wood," and threatens prosecution to all parties infringing his patent. I ask how this statement comports with the fact of my patent of December, 1851, and how far the threat can intimidate under such circumstances? Mr. Porter's claim is based moon a movable perforated diaphragm, and was

such circumstances? Mr. Porter's claim is based upon a movable perforated diaphragm, and was so understood by the Patent Office, as it appears from the records of the Patent Office that his claim was at first refused as interfering with a prior patent to Robert Foulis, of Canada, for an equivalent contrivance. This claim, as given below, and in which the perforated diaphragm is the saving clause, is what Mr. Porter calls securing the "exclusive right to making gas from wood." The statement carries absurdity on its front, and is a libel on the good sense of the Patent Office If such a claim or right had been granted, it would The Sentines, will maintain, as a fundamental truth of that great party, that the States formed the Union between them by the ratification of the Costitution as a compact; by which also they create the Federal Government, and delegated to it as their common agent, the powers expressi specified in it, with an explicit reservation of all others to the States, or to their separate governments. The exercise of any powers beyond thes thus delegated, is, therefore, an usurpation of the reserved authority of the States by the agents.

If such a claim or right had been granted, it would forbid every coal-kiln and charcoal manufactory their own creation. their own creation.

The SENTINEL will uphold and defend the Union upon the basis of the rights of the States—under the Constitution—and thus by sedulously guarding the latter, it will the more effectually strengthen in the country.

The following copies of correspondence and extracts from the records of the Patent Office will

and perpetuate the former. With regard to the exercise of the powers of the with regard to the exercise of the powers of the powers of the powers of the action. The service is the principles of its action, that Congress shall exercise no power which has not been delegated by the C. astitution, according to a strict and fair interpret tion of its language and spirit; and that the service is the service of the powers of the po shall me seek to attain indirectly an object through the exer ise of constitutional power, for the direct attainment of which it has no delegation of power. In other words, all powers exercised must be clearly gra ted, and all granted powers must be used for no urpose, except such as is clearly intended by the Constitution.

tus; and, further, this office is not aware that a patent has been granted heretofore for the exclusive right of making gas from wood. It would, however, be unjustifiable to expect me to make an extended investigation to answer your re-In respect to the internal administration of the In respect to the internal administration of the Government, the Sentinel will sustain the settled policy of the Democratic party. It will labor to inculcate this cardinal doctrine of Democratic in ternal policy:—that this Government will best promote the freedom and prosperity of the people of the States, by being less ambitious to exercise power, and more anxious to preserve liberty; and by leaving to the individual States the manage ment of all their domestic engages, while it conment of all their domestic concerns—while it con-tents itself with guarding the confederacy from external violence, and directing the foreign policy of the country to the promotion of the common interests, and defence of the common rights, and honor of the States composing it.

The United States Patent Office—To all persons to whom these presents shall come, greting:

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy from the files of this office of an extract from a paper filed in the matter of the application of W. D. Porter for letters patent, in accordance with The SENTINEL will advocate such a progressive which application letters patent were issued to the said W. D. Porter on the 22d day of August, foreign policy as will suit itself to the exigencies, and correspond with the expanding interests of the country. That policy should be energetic and decided; but should temper firmness with liberality, eighteen hundred and fifty-four in testimony whereof, I Charles Mason, Com-missioner of Patents, have caused the seal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed [L. s.] this 25th day of August, in the year of our and make its highest ends consist with the strictest principles of justice. The real interests of the country, upon each occasion demanding attention will be its guide in the course the SENTINEL wil Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-ninth. C. Mason.

The national policy of the world in this age Copy of disclaimer of W. D. Porter in his applicaessentially aggressive. In the growing sense of weakness of some of the nations of the Old World, tion for "an improved still for making wood gas," filed August 5, 1854. Letters patent issued August 22, 1854.

Letters patent issued and the ambitious restlessness of others, a common motive to colonial extension has developed

Our settled determination to repel interferen prompt us to avoid it in the affairs of other coun tries, unless by their foreign or colonial policy ou peace should be threatened, our security endan gered, or our interests invaded. For when the selfish interests of other nations prompt a foreign or colonial policy which infringes upon our rights, and places in the pathway of our commerce a dangerous and unfriendly rival, such a policy must be resisted by remonstrance, and, if need be, by

Our foreign policy should, indeed, be defensive, but to be properly defensive, it must sometimes be apparently aggressive. Our administration should be vigilant, watchful, and energetic. The world is full of important movements, commercial and political, deeply concerning American trade and American power. It is time we had an American foreign policy. We must have it. We cannot avoid it if we would. We have larger interests, and a greater stake in the world and its destiny, than every other people. We occupy the best portion of a continent, with no neighbors but a colony, and a worn-out, anarchical despotism. We are the olny people whose own land, without colonial defendencies, is washed by the two great oceans of the world. Our agricultural productions are more varied and more essential to civilized life, and to human progress—our mineral and manufacturing resources more vast—our facilities and capacity for internal and foreign commerce more extended than those of any other people living under one government. A continent, to a great extent, ungovernment. A continent, to a great extent, un-explored and exhaustless in its yet hidden wealth is at our feet. European trade seeks the great East through avenues which are at our doors, or must be made through our own limits. Europe, Asia, Africa, and the isles of the sea, lying all around us, look to us as the rising power, through the agency of whose example, and ever widening and extending, though peaceful infidences, the bless ings of liberty, civilization, and religion, are des-tined to triumph over the barbarism and supersti-tion of the millions of the world. And shall such a neonle refuse to lay hold upon their destiny, and a people refuse to lay hold upon their destiny, and act upon the high mission to which it is called? A mission so full of hope, though so laden with responsibility, which, if properly directed, must make our confederacy the harbinger of peace to the world, as well as the peaceful arbiter of its

The SENTINEL will, therefore, advocate a bold and earnest foreign policy, such as the condition of the country demands; but it will advocate it under the flag of the country—nowhere else. Its foreign policy must be consistent with the spotless honor and unimpeachable good faith of the country. To be respectable at home and abroad, and to be great in the eyes of the world, it must ask for nothing but what is right, and submit to nothing that is wrong. It must be liberal and magnanimous to the rights of others, and firm and immoveable in insisting on its own. It must, in fine, be true to its own interests, rights, and honor—it cannot then

Such, then, is the chart by which we shall be guided. Independent and free, we shall endeavor to be honest and truthful. The true friends of democratic principles we shall cordially support and defend. Its enemies in the field or in ambush we shall oppose, and on all proper occasions de;

To our future brethren of the press we extend the hand of friendly greeting. The Sentinel is the rival of no press of its own party—the personal enemy of none of the other.

The present Democratic Administration has our best wishes for its success in the establishment of the great principles upon which it came into power, and in its honest labors to attain such an end it will find the SENTINEL its friend and coadjutor.

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August 25, 1854.

Six. In reply to your letter of this date, asking "if any patent has been granted to W. D. Porter, dated 22d August, 1854, or at any other time, or to any other person or persons sometime.

to any other person or persons, securing to him or them "the exclusive right of making gas from wood," and whether any such claim was made by

W. D. Porter, under his application for a patent, which letters patent were issued bearing the above date, you are informed that W. D. Porter's claims are believed to be a nined to his appara-

test.
I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. Mason, Commissioner of Patents.
W. P. McConarlie Esq.,
Care of Prof. C. G. Page, Washington, D. C.

the improvements in making gas from wood, viz: subjecting the products of destructive distillation therefrom to a high degree of heat, substantially as has been described and for the purposes set

forth in the specification of W. P. McConnell."

The United States Patent Office—To all persons to whom these presents shall come greeting:

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy

from the records of this office of an extract from the specification of W. D. Porter's patent, issued

Extract from Specification of W. D. Porter on which letters patent were issued August 22, 1854.

CLAIM.—What I claim as my invention and de-

sire to secure by letters patent is:
"The construction of a gas apparatus or still,

consisting of a metallic or other cylinder B, the cones E and D, diaphram plate C, and exit pipe F, substantially as described in the foregoing specification, and shown in the accompanying draw-

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Patent Office, and which has been adjudged to be patentable to the first inventor thereof, and which said W.D. Porter has formally disclaimed, as appears upon the public records of said office, of which an official copy is hereto annexed, and also a copy of his claim-

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In testimony whereof, I, Charles Mason, Commissioner of Patents, have caused the scal of the Patent Office to be hereunto affixed this twenty-fifth day of August, a the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-ninth.

Except four Specific of W. D. ENERAL AGENCY.—The undersigned most respectfully informs, by this notice, his riends and the public in general, here and eslewhere, that he has opened an Agency Office for the prosecution of claims of every description against the government, before the several depart

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